

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 049069  
ORIGIN HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 OES-06 ISO-00 NEA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 AF-08 SIG-02  
/054 R

DRAFTED BY DHEW/FDA: JRWEINROTH, M.D.:CCK  
APPROVED BY OES/APT/BMP: WJWALSH, III  
DHEW/PHS/OASH/OIH: RFISCHER  
ARA/EX:CJACOBINI(INFO)  
NEA/EX:EGABINGTON(INFO)  
EA/EX:JRCUNNINGHAM(INFO)  
EUR/EX:JLTULL(INFO)  
AF/EX:JTIERNEY(INFO)

-----050328Z 035968 /66

P 042331Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 049069

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, XX

SUBJECT: LAETRILE (AMYGDALIN)

1. THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION PROHIBITS THE INTER-STATE SALE AND USE OF LAETRILE AS A CANCER "CURE". THE ARTICLE IS GENERICALLY KNOWN AS AMYGDALIN, AND IS ERRONEOUSLY ALSO CALLED A VITAMIN, I.E., VITAMIN B17. THE COMPOUND IS DERIVED PRIMARILY FROM APRICOT KERNELS.
2. BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT INTEREST IN AND ACTIVITIES RELATING TO LAETRILE IN THIS COUNTRY, FDA REQUESTS THAT POSTS DETERMINE ATTITUDE OF HOST GOVERNMENTS HEALTH AUTHORITIES TOWARD USE OF THIS ARTICLE UNDER THE NAME LAETRILE, AMYGDALIN OR ANY OTHER NAME IF PROMOTED AS A "CURE" FOR

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CANCER. IF APPROVED FOR SUCH USE, DOES GOVERNMENT HAVE MEDICAL DATA TO SUPPORT APPROVAL?

3. IT IS ALSO OF INTEREST TO FDA TO DETERMINE IF THIS SUBSTANCE IS OFFERED FOR ANY OTHER USES AND WHETHER THE COUNTRY HAS ANY REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIOR APPROVAL I.E., SAFETY AND/OR EFFICACY EVALUATIONS BEFORE A DRUG MAY

LEGALLY BE SOLD.  
CHRISTOPHE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, MEDICAL CARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE049069  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JRWEINROTH, M.D.:CCK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770076-0167  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770390/aaaadbuh.tel  
**Line Count:** 64  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 79a4adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN HEW  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3201702  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LAETRILE (AMYGDALIN)  
**TAGS:** TBIO, XX  
**To:** ALL POSTS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/79a4adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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